

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 PRS-01 H-02 SS-15

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DRAFTED BY NEA/P:RONEILL:RGH
APPROVED BY NEA/P:GFSHERMAN
S/PRS - MR. FUNSETH (INFO)
H - MR. FLATEN (INFO)
NEA/IAI - MR. SMITH (INFO)
NEA/EGY - MR. MATTHEWS (INFO)
NEA/ARN - MR. DAY (INFO)
NEA/ARP - MR. DICKMAN (INFO)

----- 126450

R 192323Z AUG 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMCONSUL DHARAHAN
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY SANA
USINT BAGHDAD
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AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS
FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING FOR AUGUST 19,
1975:

Q. WHAT WAS THE SUBJECT OF THE SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH
AMBASSADOR DINITZ (THIS MORNING)?

A. THE SUBJECT OF HIS MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR DINITZ WAS
THE INTERIM AGREEMENT AND THE STATE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS,
AND HIS TRIP ON WHICH HE LEAVES TOMORROW FOR THE MIDDLE
EAST.

Q. WHY WAS IT NECESSARY?

A. WELL, WHEN YOU HAVE THESE KIND OF NEGOTIATIONS, IT IS
NECESSARY FOR THE SECRETARY TO GET INVOLVED AT VARIOUS
STAGES TO ANSWER QUESTIONS.

Q. BUT I MEAN, THE IMPRESSION WE GOT LAST WEEK WAS THAT A
NUMBER OF MEETINGS WERE REQUIRED TO SET UP THE SHUTTLE AND

THEN DURING THE SHUTTLE ANY FURTHER MATTERS WOULD BE
RESOLVED. WHY WAS THIS PARTICULAR MEETING NECESSARY
BETWEEN THOSE OF LAST WEEK AND THE UPCOMING SHUTTLE?

A. I DO NOT THINK WE RULED OUT LAST WEEK THAT THE
SECRETARY MIGHT NOT BE MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR DINITZ
AND PARTICIPATING IN THE TALKS THAT WERE GOING TO TAKE
PLACE. I DO NOT FIND THAT VERY UNUSUAL. I THINK THAT
THIS HAPPENS USUALLY ON THE EVE OF ANY TRIP.

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Q. IS HE GOING TO SEE HIM THIS AFTERNOON?

A. HE MAY SEE AMBASSADOR DINITZ AGAIN BEFORE HE
LEAVES, EITHER THIS AFTERNOON OR POSSIBLY TOMORROW
MORNING. THAT HAS NOT BEEN SET UP YET.

Q. WAS ANYTHING SAID AT THE MEETING WITH DINITZ THIS
MORNING THAT WOULD LEAD THE SECRETARY TO CHANGE HIS
ASSESSMENT ABOUT 80 TO 90 PERCENT SUCCESS ALREADY
ACHIEVED OR CHANCES OF SUCCESS, OR ANYTHING TO CHANGE HIS
SCHEDULE?

A. THERE WAS NOT ANYTHING SAID AT THE MEETING THAT IS

GOING TO CHANGE HIS PLANNED DEPARTURE TOMORROW EVENING
FOR THE MIDDLE EAST.

Q. BOB, THERE IS A STORY IN THE ISRAELI PRESS THIS MORNING THAT SAID THAT THE UNITED STATES AND ISRAEL WOULD SIGN A MEMORANDUM OR AN UNDERSTANDING THAT INCLUDED FORTY SPECIFIC CLAUSES IN IT. AND THE ARTICLE WENT ON TO LIST SOME OF THEM. CAN YOU COMMENT ON THAT? IS THAT AN ACCURATE REPORT?

A. ON THIS KIND OF QUESTION, MY RESPONSE IS GOING TO BE IN ESSENCE WHAT I SAID YESTERDAY. I THINK IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU UNDERSTAND OUR PROBLEM. WE ARE THE COUNTRY THROUGH WHICH THE NEGOTIATIONS ARE BEING CONDUCTED BY THE TWO PARTIES DIRECTLY CONCERNED. THEREFORE, WE ARE JUST NOT ABLE TO DISCUSS THE CONTENT OF THE INTERIM AGREEMENT PRESENTLY BEING NEGOTIATED, OR TO COMMENT ON PRESS REPORTS SPECULATING ON THE DETAILS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS. IT IS JUST NOT POSSIBLE.

Q. THIS IS AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND ISRAEL. CAN YOU GIVE US SOME IDEA OF THE EXTENT OF AMERICAN HELP OR ASSISTANCE OR UNDERSTANDINGS TO ISRAEL IN RETURN FOR ISRAELI-EGYPTIAN AGREEMENT?

A. I AM JUST NOT ABLE TO COMMENT ON THE NEGOTIATIONS.

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THE SECRETARY SAID IN VAIL ON SUNDAY THAT IF AND WHEN AN AGREEMENT IS CONCLUDED THAT EVERYTHING IN WHICH THE UNITED STATES IS INVOLVED WILL BE SUBMITTED TO THE APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES IN THE CONGRESS.

Q. DOES THAT MEAN THAT WHATEVER AGREEMENTS THE SECRETARY WORKS OUT WITH ISRAEL AND SEPARATELY WITH EGYPT WILL NOT BE ANNOUNCED UNTIL THEY ARE SUBMITTED TO CONGRESS AFTER CONGRESS RETURNS?

A. I THINK THAT PROBABLY IS A FAIR ASSUMPTION, YES.

Q. DO YOU HAVE THE ITINERARY, BOB, OF THE TRIP YET?

A. HE IS GOING TO ISRAEL FIRST AND THEN EGYPT. AFTER THAT HE IS PLANNING TO VISIT SYRIA, JORDAN, AND SAUDI ARABIA. BUT THE ITINERARY OF THE LAST THREE COUNTRIES HAS NOT AS YET BEEN FIXED.

Q. WHEN YOU SAY "AFTER THAT", THERE MAY BE SEVERAL SHUTTLES BACK AND FORTH BEFORE THAT HAPPENS?

A. I DON'T THINK HE KNOWS THAT YET.

Q. BOB, IS IT YOUR UNDERSTANDING THAT FINAL TERMS OF THE AGREEMENT WILL BE ARRANGED BETWEEN EGYPT AND ISRAEL DIRECTLY, AS PRIME MINISTER RABIN HAS SAID THEY SHOULD BE?

A. HE ANTICIPATES THE SAME SORT OF DIRECT CONTACT AS TOOK PLACE IN THE LAST INTERIM SETTLEMENT.

Q. YOUR UNDERSTANDING IS THERE WILL BE SOMETHING SIMILAR TO THE 101 TALKS? IS THAT IT?

A. THAT IS MY UNDERSTANDING, YES.

Q. A COMMANDERS' MEETING IN THE SINAI, PERHAPS?

A. I DO NOT KNOW WHO, BUT PERHAPS.

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Q. DO YOU HAVE A COMMENT ON JOSEPH KRAFT'S COLUMN ABOUT SEVERAL AMBASSADORIAL CHANGES AND THE ASSIGNMENT OF MR. ENDERS TO CANADA?

A. I HAVE NO COMMENT ON THE KRAFT COLUMN.

Q. WHERE IS MR. ENDERS? IS HE IN WASHINGTON?

A. HE IS IN WASHINGTON, YES.

Q. THANK YOU. KISSINGER

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 26 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE197287
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: NEA/P:RONEILL:RGH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D750287-0730
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t197508101/baaaasmh.tel
Line Count: 198
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: hartledg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 MAR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 MAR 2003 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <26 JAN 2004 by hartledg>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: n/a
TAGS: PFOR, SOPN, US
To: ALGIERS
AMMAN
BEIRUT
CAIRO
DAMASCUS
JIDDA

KUWAIT
DHAHHRAN
JERUSALEM
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NATO
SANA
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ABU DHABI

Type: TE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006